

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07
NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 PM-05 NSC-05
SS-15 /065 W

-----039820 030101Z /66

R 011510Z DEC 77

FM AMEMASSY MAPUTO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6480

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LILONGWE

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MZ

SUBJECT: MOZAMBIKAN PLANE SHOT DOWN

REF: LISBON 9181 (NOTAL)

1. THE MOZAMBIQUE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS HAS ANNOUNCED THE CRASH NOVEMBER 24 OF A LIGHT AIRCRAFT BELONGING TO THE FIRM "TEXTAFRICA." THE PLANE WAS ON A FLIGHT FROM MAPUTO TO CHIMOIO, WHERE TEXTAFRICA'S LARGE TEXTILE MILL IS LOCATED. THE PILOT AND ALL SEVEN PASSENGERS WERE KILLED IN THE ACCIDENT. THE MOZAMBIQUE GOVERNMENT HAS ORDERED A "RIGOROUS INVESTIGATION" TO DETERMINE THE CAUSE OF THE CRASH.

2. ACCORDING TO THE PORTUGUESE AMBASSADOR, THE PLANE, WHICH WAS FLYING KEY COMPANY OFFICIALS TO CHIMOIO, WAS SHOT DOWN BY FRELIMO FORCES WHO WERE GUARDING THE AIRPORT AT CHIMOIO. APPARENTLY, AIR CONTROL PERSONNEL IN MAPUTO FAILED TO REPORT THE PLANE'S FLIGHT PLAN TO THE CHIMOIO AIRPORT AND THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE, AND FRELIMO FORCES,

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WHO WERE ON ALERT FOLLOWING THE HEAVY RHODESIAN RAID 20 KILOMETERS FROM CHIMOIO THE PREVIOUS DAY, COMMENCED FIRING BEFORE REALIZING THEIR MISTAKE.

3. THE MOZAMBIQUE GOVERNMENT HAS EXPRESSED ITS REGRETS TO THE PORTUGUESE AND SWISS GOVERNMENTS, WHOSE NATIONALS (FOUR PORTUGUESE AND THREE SWISS) DIED IN THE CRASH.

PRESIDENT MACHEL MENTIONED TO THE AMBASSADOR ON NOVEMBER 25 THAT THIS IS THE TYPE OF TRAGIC ACCIDENT THAT OCCURS IN WAR SITUATIONS.

4. COMMENT: THIS IS THE SECOND INCIDENT WITHIN FOUR MONTHS IN WHICH KEY EXPATRIATE CONTACT PERSONNEL HAVE BEEN VICTIMS OF TRAGIC ACCIDENTS. THE OTHER WAS THE RIOT AND EXPLOSION AT THE MOATIZE COAL MINE IN AUGUST. THIS LATEST ACCIDENT WILL MAKE IT EVEN MORE DIFFICULT FOR THE GOVERNMENT TO RECRUIT ESSENTIAL EXPATRIATE STAFF TO SERVE OUTSIDE OF MAPUTO AND BEIRA.
DE PREE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AIRCRAFT ACCIDENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 01-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977MAPUTO01449
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770448-0667
Format: TEL
From: MAPUTO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t197712105/aaaadlhg.tel
Line Count: 74
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 80f6cefb-c188-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Page Count: 2
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 LISBON 9181
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 113479
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MOZAMBICAN PLANE SHOT DOWN
TAGS: EAIR, MOPS, MZ, AO, FRELIMO, TEXTAFRICA
To: STATE LISBON
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/80f6cefb-c188-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
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